

Amendments to the Claims

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (currently amended): A polymeric vehicle comprising an aqueous dispersion of a neutralized polymer in water, a co-solvent, and a cross-linking agent, which dispersion is substantially free of emulsifiers, wherein the cross-linking agent is selected from the group consisting of dimerized or trimerized polyisocyanate, triisocyanates, tetraisocyanates and mixtures thereof, wherein the polymeric vehicle is effective for providing a coating binder film, wherein the polymer is selected from the group consisting of alkyd or epoxy ester polymers, polyester modified alkyds, 5-(sodiosulfo)isophthalic acid (SSIP A) based alkyds, styrene modified alkyd, and acrylic modified alkyds, wherein the polymer has an acid value of from about 4 to about 70 prior to neutralization, and a solubility of at least about 50 weight percent in a hydrophilic organic solvent which solvent has a solubility of at least 5 weight percent in water, and wherein the aqueous dispersion has less than about 2 weight percent organic solvent, at least about 30 weight percent solids, a viscosity of less than about 20 poise at a temperature of about 25°C., and a mean particle size of not more than about 300 nm.

2. (currently amended): The polymeric vehicle of claim 1, wherein ~~isocyanate compound is a~~ dimerized or trimerized polyisocyanate, triisocyanates, tetraisocyanates and mixtures thereof are polymeric isocyanate compounds.

3. (currently amended): The polymeric vehicle of claim 1, wherein the ~~isocyanate compound is a~~ dimerized or trimerized polyisocyanate, triisocyanates, tetraisocyanates and mixtures thereof are blocked isocyanate compound.

4. (currently amended): The polymeric vehicle of claim 1, wherein the ~~isocyanate compound is an~~ dimerized or trimerized polyisocyanate, triisocyanates, tetraisocyanates and mixtures thereof are unblocked isocyanate compound.

5. (cancelled)

6. (currently amended): A formulated coating composition comprising an aqueous dispersion of a neutralized polymer in water, a co-solvent, and a cross-linking agent, which dispersion is substantially free of emulsifiers, wherein the cross-linking agent is selected from the group consisting of dimerized or trimerized polyisocyanate, triisocyanates, tetraisocyanates and mixtures thereof, the formulated coating composition being effective for providing a coating binder film, wherein the polymer is selected from the group consisting of alkyd or epoxy ester polymers, polyester modified alkyds, 5-(sodiumsulfo)isophthalic acid (SSIP A) based alkyds, styrene modified alkyd, and acrylic modified alkyds, wherein the polymer has an acid value of from about 4 to about 70 prior to neutralization, and a solubility of at least about 50 weight percent in a hydrophilic organic solvent which solvent has a solubility of at least 5 weight percent in water, and wherein the aqueous dispersion has less than about 2 weight percent organic solvent, at least about 30 weight percent solids, a viscosity of less than about 20 poise at a temperature of about 25°C., and a mean particle size of not more than about 300 nm.

7. (currently amended): The formulated coating composition of claim 6, ~~wherein isocyanate compound is a~~ dimerized or trimerized polyisocyanate, triisocyanates, tetraisocyanates and mixtures thereof are polymeric isocyanate compounds.

8. (currently amended): The formulated coating composition of claim 6, wherein the ~~isocyanate compound is a~~ dimerized or trimerized polyisocyanate, triisocyanates, tetraisocyanates and mixtures thereof are blocked isocyanate compound.

9. (currently amended): The formulated coating composition of claim 6, wherein the ~~isocyanate compound is an~~ dimerized or trimerized polyisocyanate, triisocyanates, tetraisocyanates and mixtures thereof are unblocked isocyanate compound.

10-22. (cancelled)

23. (currently amended): A formulated coating composition comprising a first component and a second component, the first component comprising an aqueous dispersion of a neutralized polymer in water and a co-solvent, the second component comprising a cross-linking agent, which dispersion

is substantially free of emulsifiers, wherein the cross-linking agent is selected from the group consisting of dimerized or trimerized polyisocyanate, triisocyanates, tetraisocyanates and mixtures thereof, the first and second component when mixed being effective for providing a coating binder film, wherein the polymer is selected from the group consisting of alkyd or epoxy ester polymers, polyester modified alkyds, 5-(sodiumsulfo)isophthalic acid (SSIPA) based alkyds, styrene modified alkyd, and acrylic modified alkyds, wherein the polymer has an acid value of from about 4 to about 70 prior to neutralization, and a solubility of at least about 50 weight percent in a hydrophilic organic solvent which solvent has a solubility of at least 5 weight percent in water, and wherein the aqueous dispersion has less than about 2 weight percent organic solvent, at least about 30 weight percent solids, a viscosity of less than about 20 poise at a temperature of about 25°C., and a mean particle size of not more than about 300 nm.

24. (currently amended): The formulated coating composition of claim 23, ~~wherein isocyanate compound is a~~ dimerized or trimerized polyisocyanate, triisocyanates, tetraisocyanates and mixtures thereof ~~are~~ polymeric isocyanate compounds.

25. (currently amended): The formulated coating composition of claim 23, wherein the ~~isocyanate compound is a~~ dimerized or trimerized polyisocyanate, triisocyanates, tetraisocyanates and mixtures thereof ~~are~~ blocked isocyanate compound.

26. (currently amended): The formulated coating composition of claim 23, wherein the ~~isocyanate compound is an~~ dimerized or trimerized polyisocyanate, triisocyanates, tetraisocyanates and mixtures thereof ~~are~~ unblocked isocyanate compound.

27-40. (cancelled)